



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Field Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



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Harvest Continues

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 18, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.26 inches in the northeast Lower Peninsula to 0.88 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees above normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 9 degrees above normal in the eastern and western Upper Peninsula. Rains this week were welcomed by farmers across the State. A farmer in the northeast said, “We would like to start planting wheat, but it’s either too dry on some fields or we haven’t harvested the beans.” A farmer from the southwest mentioned, “The 1.6 inches of rain this week settled the dust for a few days, but everything is still dry under the surface.”

Field Crops

Rain this past week did little to improve soil moisture conditions. **Corn** continued to mature. High moisture corn was being harvested. **Soybean** harvest began in early planted soybean fields, and the remaining fields were maturing rapidly. The third and fourth cuttings of **alfalfa** continued. For **sugarbeets**, harvest began in a limited number of fields. Harvest of **dry beans** continued. There were reports of farmers spraying to kill the plant because the bean pods had turned brown but the vegetative part of the plant was still green. A lack of sufficient rainfall continued to limit farmers from planting their **wheat** fields.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/18/05

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	34	48	18	0
Subsoil	35	43	22	0

Crop progress for week ending 09/18/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	81	76	75	75
All hay, fourth cutting	30	20	18	15
Apples, harvested	25	20	20	NA
Corn, dent	96	85	53	69
Corn, mature	52	28	9	19
Corn, harvested	6	0	0	1
Corn silage, harvested	81	52	18	36
Dry beans, dropping leaves	100	80	62	66
Dry beans, harvested	48	17	15	19
Peaches, harvested	95	90	98	NA
Potatoes, harvested	37	28	29	NA
Soybeans, turning leaves	97	81	47	70
Soybeans, dropping leaves	79	42	14	32
Soybeans, harvested	8	1	0	1
Sugarbeets, harvested	1	0	0	0
Winter wheat, planted	9	5	8	9

Fruit

Gala and McIntosh **apple** harvests neared completion. Empire and Jonagolds will be the predominant apple varieties harvested this week. **Peach** harvest neared completion in the west central. Concord **grape** harvest will begin in the southwest this week.

Vegetables

Vegetable crops throughout the State continued to be harvested. **Carrot** harvest continued. Harvest continued for **celery** and **onion** crops. **Pepper** harvest was wrapping up with plants still showing some virus symptoms. **Potato** harvest continued. **Pumpkin** plants looked good with harvest underway in many areas. **Snap bean** and **sweet corn** harvests were in full swing. **Squash**, **cucumber**, and **zucchini** harvests continued in some areas. **Tomatoes** for processing harvest neared completion in some areas, while fresh market harvest continued.

Crop condition for week ending 09/18/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	10	22	27	34	7
Corn	1	6	23	51	19
Dry beans	0	10	28	48	14
Pasture	16	32	34	18	0
Soybeans	3	9	29	43	16

Percent of Fall season (1961-1990) in which first freeze occurred on or before the date (mo/day) given in the table

Station	90%	70%	50%	30%	10%
Alma	10/24	10/15	10/08	10/20	9/25
Alpena	10/07	9/29	9/24	9/18	9/08
Bad Axe	10/28	10/19	10/13	10/06	9/27
Caro	10/06	9/27	9/23	9/17	9/07
Chatham	10/06	9/25	9/17	9/08	8/24
Coldwater	10/17	10/10	10/05	9/30	9/23
Eau Claire	11/05	10/28	10/22	10/16	10/07
Grand Rapids	10/24	10/15	10/09	10/03	9/25
Hesperia	10/12	10/03	9/26	9/20	9/11
Lansing	10/15	10/08	10/03	9/27	9/19
Lapeer	10/16	10/06	9/28	9/19	9/03
Monroe	11/02	10/26	10/20	10/15	10/06
Saginaw	10/30	10/22	10/16	10/10	10/02
Sandusky	10/25	10/16	10/09	9/30	9/16
S.S. Marie	10/12	10/02	9/25	9/18	9/08
Standish	10/12	10/01	9/24	9/16	9/05
Stephenson	9/29	9/23	9/18	9/12	9/03
Traverse City	10/20	10/10	10/02	9/25	9/13

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/18/05 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2005	2004	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	89	37		2,284	1,633		0.25	0.30	0.77	12.81		
Marquette	89	39		2,186	1,586		0.98	1.03	1.93	13.40		
Stephenson	91	41		2,371	1,931		0.33	0.39	1.20	9.36		
Western UP	91	37	9	2,274	1,665	1,833	0.53	0.57	1.10	12.16	18.53	3.58
Cornell	87	43		2,269	1,722		0.46	0.46	1.81	9.43		
Sault St Marie	87	44		2,145	1,462		0.45	0.64	1.92	11.11		
Eastern UP	89	34	9	2,142	1,501	1,621	0.34	0.81	2.03	11.31	17.36	3.55
Beulah	86	49		2,588	1,998		1.13	2.95	3.58	16.15		
Lake City	86	40		2,336	1,953		0.15	0.83	0.96	14.65		
Old Mission	89	48		2,442	1,926		0.32	0.63	1.29	11.98		
Pellston	89	39		2,381	1,828		0.41	0.50	1.21	12.36		
Northwest	89	39	8	2,401	1,874	2,084	0.57	1.21	1.69	14.05	16.39	3.66
Alpena	90	41		2,283	1,910		0.18	0.20	0.27	13.21		
Houghton Lake	88	37		2,411	2,058		0.01	0.23	0.44	10.45		
Rogers City	89	41		2,315	1,925		0.23	0.39	0.52	15.16		
Northeast	90	36	7	2,350	1,940	2,018	0.26	0.45	0.61	14.09	16.39	3.47
Fremont	87	43		2,717	2,274		0.32	0.41	0.66	7.30		
Hart	85	43		2,597	2,123		0.30	0.57	0.88	11.48		
Muskegon	87	47		2,800	2,307		0.84	0.89	1.40	8.65		
West Central	87	43	6	2,675	2,194	2,275	0.42	0.59	0.94	9.72	16.68	3.19
Alma	91	46		2,702	2,406		0.34	0.34	0.46	11.10		
Big Rapids	91	46		2,599	2,231		0.00	0.00	0.01	8.62		
Central	91	43	7	2,650	2,312	2,348	0.34	0.34	0.46	9.59	17.48	3.09
Bad Axe	91	46		2,677	2,211		0.59	1.09	1.30	13.20		
Pigeon	91	43		2,486	2,181		0.02	0.17	0.20	9.78		
Saginaw	92	47		2,671	2,410		0.30	0.70	0.86	13.56		
Standish	91	46		2,536	2,156		0.27	0.61	1.07	15.66		
East Central	93	43	7	2,582	2,249	2,350	0.28	0.59	0.98	12.67	15.61	2.70
Fennville	91	45		2,777	2,349		0.47	0.47	0.78	5.91		
Grand Rapids	91	50		2,923	2,640		1.36	1.39	1.67	17.68		
Holland	93	43		2,881	2,444		0.29	0.29	0.37	3.81		
South Bend, IN	93	48		3,083	2,788		1.41	1.43	1.60	11.26		
Watervliet	92	47		2,954	2,529		0.99	0.99	1.17	10.00		
Southwest	95	43	4	2,898	2,530	2,559	0.88	0.88	1.07	9.72	18.01	3.26
Belding	90	43		2,669	2,386		0.98	0.99	1.29	13.38		
Coldwater	90	48		2,784	2,489		0.77	0.85	1.05	12.91		
Lansing	91	51		2,939	2,504		0.83	0.91	0.98	15.77		
South Central	92	43	5	2,836	2,523	2,514	0.61	0.67	0.84	12.00	17.80	2.79
Detroit	91	56		3,112	2,807		0.38	0.38	1.15	12.67		
Flint	89	50		2,799	2,555		0.26	0.56	1.08	11.81		
Romeo	89	50		2,762	2,524		0.79	0.83	1.30	13.21		
Tipton	90	51		2,854	2,503		1.14	1.14	1.20	14.08		
Toledo, OH	90	53		3,048	2,850		1.02	1.02	1.44	12.24		
Southeast	92	50	5	2,867	2,634	2,512	0.85	0.91	1.38	13.78	17.06	2.43

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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